

ORDINANCE No. 2008-11-147

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, CREATING THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERSHIP; PROVIDING FOR TERMS OF OFFICE; PROVIDING FOR ORGANIZATION; PROVIDING FOR DUTIES AND POWERS; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Miami Gardens Police Department became operational on December 16, 2007, and thus far has had a positive impact on the community at large, and

WHEREAS, part of providing service to the community, is fostering relationships and interaction with the residents, business owners and religious practitioners in the City, and

WHEREAS, the exchange of information is a powerful tool in assisting a police department to develop and provide the type of service expected by the public and to maintain an atmosphere of trust, especially critical during high profile incidents, and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the City of Miami Gardens City Council create a committee whose primary role will be to facilitate the exchange of information between the police department and the community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, as follows:

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS: The foregoing Whereas Clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true, and the same are hereby made a specific part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2. CREATION OF ORDINANCE: The City Council of the City of Miami Gardens hereby creates an Ordinance to be entitled the City of Miami Gardens Citizens Advisory Committee.

Miami Gardens Citizens Advisory Committee.

(a) *Created; composition.* There is hereby created a City of Miami Gardens Miami Gardens Citizens Advisory Committee. The committee shall consist of twenty-one (21) members. The Composition of the committee shall be as follows:

1. Fourteen (14) community representatives – including, but not limited to residents, members of civic association, not-for-profit organizations, homeowners associations, and religious organizations, located within the City of Miami Gardens;
2. Three (3) retired Police representatives – members from this category must be former sworn officers in the State of Florida and must currently reside in the City of Miami Gardens;
3. Three (3) business community representatives – members must own or operate a business within the City of Miami Gardens;
4. One (1) large corporation representative – member from this category must be a representative from a major employer and/or venue within the City of Miami Gardens.

(b) *Appointment and terms of members.* The Mayor and Council shall appoint three members each to the committee.

(c) *Terms of office.* In order that the terms of office of all members of the committee shall not expire at the same time, the initial appointments to the committee shall be as follows: seven (7) members of the committee shall be appointed for a term of two years from date of its first meeting; seven (7) members shall be appointed to the committee for a term of three years; and seven (7) members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. Appointed members shall thereafter serve for a period of three years or until a successor is appointed, whichever occurs later.

(d) *Duties and Powers of the Miami Gardens Citizens Advisory Committee.* The powers and duties of the committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following duties, functions, powers and responsibilities:

1. Serving as a liaison between the City and the public as it relates to issues of great public importance involving the Police Department;
2. Exchanging information among the various leaders to include issues police-related questions and concerns;
3. Dispelling fictitious and/or erroneous information about police-related incidents;
4. Dispensing accurate information regarding issues of great public importance involving the Police Department, to ensure that the greater community can be provided with correct information from a variety of legitimate sources.
5. Serving in an advisory capacity to the City Council on police involved incidents;
6. Enhancing the trust between the Police Department and the community.

(e) *Meetings*: Members of the committee shall meet no less than four times per year.

(f) All provisions of Ordinance No. 2005-02-40, as mended, not in conflict herewith, shall apply to the Miami Gardens Citizens Advisory Committee.

SECTION 3. CONFLICT: All ordinances or Code provisions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. INCLUSION IN CODE: It is the intention of the City Council of the City of Miami Gardens that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miami Gardens and that the sections of

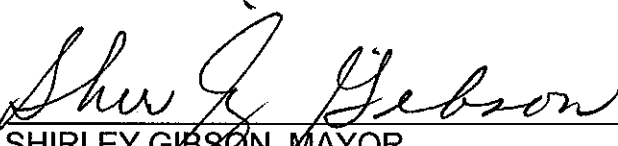
this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered and the word "Ordinance" may be changed to "Chapter," "Section," "Article" or such other appropriate word or phrase, the use of which shall accomplish the intentions herein expressed; provided, however, that Section 1 hereof or the provisions contemplated thereby shall not be codified.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage.

PASSED ON FIRST READING ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2008.

ADOPTED AND PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2008.

ATTEST;

  
SHIRLEY GIBSON, MAYOR

  
RONETTA TAYLOR, CMC, CITY CLERK

PREPARED BY: SONJA KNIGHTON DICKENS, ESQ.  
City Attorney

SPONSORED BY: VICE-MAYOR BARBARA WATSON

MOVED BY: Moved by Vice Mayor Watson  
SECONDED BY: Councilman Bratton

**VOTE: 7-0**

Mayor Shirley Gibson	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Vice Mayor Barbara Watson	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman Aaron Campbell Jr.	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman Oliver G. Gilbert III	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman André Williams	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)

SKD/yt

# City of Miami Gardens

1515-200 NW 167<sup>th</sup> Street  
Miami Gardens, Florida 33169



Mayor Shirley Gibson  
Vice Mayor Barbara Watson  
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton  
Councilman Aaron Campbell Jr.  
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett  
Councilman Oscar Braynon II  
Councilman André Williams

## Agenda Cover Page

Date: March 26, 2008

Fiscal Impact: No ☒ Yes ☐

(If yes, explain in Staff Summary)

Funding Source: N/A

Contract/P.O. Requirement: Yes ☐ No ☒

Sponsor Name/Department:

Councilwoman Barbara Watson

Public hearing ☒

Ordinance ☒

1st Reading

Advertising requirement:

RFP/RFQ/Bid # \_\_\_\_\_

Quasi-Judicial ☐

Resolution

2nd Reading ☒

Yes ☒ No

## Title

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, CREATING THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERSHIP; PROVIDING FOR TERMS OF OFFICE; PROVIDING FOR ORGANIZATION; PROVIDING FOR DUTIES AND POWERS; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

## Staff Summary

The Miami Gardens Police Department became operational on December 16, 2007, and thus far has had a positive impact on the community at large. Part of providing service to the community is fostering relationships and interaction with the residents, business owners and religious practitioners in the City. The exchange of information is a powerful tool in assisting a police department to develop and provide the type of service expected by the public and to maintain an atmosphere of trust. This is especially critical during high profile incidents.

As such it is proposed that the City of Miami Gardens City Council create a committee whose primary role will be to facilitate the exchange of information between the police department and the community.

***The proposed composition of the committee and its function are as follows:***

This committee is proposed to consist of 21 members who will represent a number of businesses and community leaders. This cross section of individuals will allow for divergent points of view and give the police department an on-going mechanism to provide information to a large segment of the City's population.

**Proposed representation:**

- (14) Community representatives- including residents, heads of civic organizations, not-for-profit organizations, homeowners associations, and religious organizations, located within the City of Miami Gardens.
- (3) Retired Police representatives – members from this category must be former sworn officers in the State of Florida and currently reside in the City of Miami Gardens.
- (3) Business Community representatives – members must own or operator a business within the City of Miami Gardens
- (1) Large Corporation representative – member from this category must be a representative from a major employer and/or venue within the City of Miami Gardens.

The Mayor and Council shall appoint three members each to the committee.

**Responsibilities of the Committee shall include:**

1. Serving as a liaison between the City, the Police Department and the Public as it relates to issues of great public importance involving the Police Department;
2. Exchanging information among the various leaders to include police related questions and concerns;
3. Dispelling fictitious and/or erroneous information about police related incidents;
4. Dispensing accurate information regarding issues of great public importance involving the Police Department, to ensure that the greater community can be provided with correct information from a variety of legitimate sources;
5. Serving in an advisory capacity to the City Council on Police involved incidents;
6. Enhancing the trust between the Police Department and the community.

**Recommendation:**

That the City Council approves the attached ordinance authorizing the creation of the Miami Gardens Citizens Advisory Committee.